



# CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

## 24-HOUR REPORT

4 JUNE 2021

### (U) CALIFORNIA

#### (U) Azusa – Police Suffered Ransomware Attack in 2018; City Kept it Secret

(U) The recent ransomware attack that spilled thousands of sensitive Azusa Police Department files online was not the first-time hackers demanding money had infiltrated the agency's computer systems. City officials acknowledged this week that foreign hackers seized control of the police dispatch system and other data for more than a week in 2018. The attack forced Azusa to rely on other departments for help with 911 operations and cost the city more than \$50,000, but did not acknowledge that it occurred. SOURCE: 3 June 2021, [Los Angeles Times](#)

#### (U) Sacramento – Ransomware Attacks Strike Sacramento Area

(U) The FBI is warning residents after ransomware attacks have targeted both a local business and community college in the Sacramento area. Ransomware is malicious software that encrypts a user's data and makes it unusable, according to the FBI. The FBI warns victims not to oblige attackers' demand for payment because there are no guarantees that victims will get their data back. An employee of Beck's Shoes told local media that their company was hit about a week and a half ago by ransomware. Thanks to their tech support staff, they were up and running the next day. Sierra College was also hit last month, causing technical difficulties on the college website and other online systems.

SOURCE: 3 June 2021, [Fox News](#)

### (U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

#### (U) California – Border Patrol Intercepts Sixteen People Following Panga Sighting

(U) San Diego – US Border Patrol agents intercepted 16 migrants early Thursday who made their way to shore near the Scripps Pier after authorities spotted a panga off the coast. A Border Patrol spokesperson said agents got word at approximately 1:40 a.m. from the Joint Harbor Operations Center of a possible maritime smuggling attempt. A US Coast Guard vessel located a panga approximately 15-miles west of Sunset Cliffs. The panga sighting comes the day after federal authorities shared details on deadly recent smuggling operations and made a collective plea for people to stop considering coming into the country illegally. Officials said 25 people have died trying to come into the US through San Diego and Imperial counties between October and April, compared to 29 in all the 2020 fiscal year.

SOURCE: 4 June 2021, [Fox News](#)

#### (U) Texas – Border Patrol Apprehends Criminal Gang Member

(U) Laredo – Laredo Sector Border Patrol agents apprehended a criminal gang member at a stash house in south Laredo. The arrest occurred when agents responded to a request for assistance from the Laredo Police Department (LPD) at a stash house found on Monterrey Avenue. Among the undocumented individuals apprehended was Fidel Alexis Lopez-Mendoza, a 20-year-old Mexican national and a member of a sureño gang. Lopez-Mendoza has a criminal history that includes robbery, battery, interference with emergency communication, and theft of property out of Benton, Texas. He is being held by the US Border Patrol pending criminal prosecution for his immigration violations. He will be remanded to the custody of the US Marshal Service.

SOURCE: 3 June 2021, [US Customs & Border Protection](#)

**(U) NATIONAL**

**(U) District of Columbia – US Justice Department to Elevate Ransomware Priority to That of Terrorism**

(U) Washington DC – In the wake of another cyberattack launched over the weekend against JBS SA, the world's largest meat-processing plant, the US Justice Department has announced that it will elevate the priority of ransomware crimes to that of terrorism. White House officials believe Russian-based hackers were behind a number of recent ransomware attacks, to include the shutdown of the Colonial pipeline. While JBS plants are getting back online after all the company's US slaughterhouses were shut down, the cyberattacks impact on consumers and restaurants has yet to be fully felt. REvil, the Russian-linked hacker group was responsible for the JBS cyberattack, has emerged as one of the most prolific, and public, ransomware groups in recent years, according to the FBI.

SOURCE: 3 June 2021, [The Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#)

**(U) District of Columbia – FBI Says it is Investigating Approximately 100 Types of Ransomware**

(U) Washington DC – FBI Director Christopher Wray told the Wall Street Journal that the agency is investigating about 100 different types of ransomware, many of which trace back to actors in Russia. Each of the 100 different malicious software variants are responsible for multiple ransomware attacks in the US. The Kremlin on Friday said the FBI director's remark that Russia was a haven for hackers was "emotional," according to reporting.

SOURCE: 4 June 2021, [WKZO News](#)

**(U) Florida – Two Teenagers Broke into Home, Stole Weapons, and Opened Fire on Police**

(U) Volusia County – Deputies in Volusia County, Florida, shot a 14-year-old girl on Tuesday night after she and a 12-year-old boy fled a group home, broke into a house, found multiple guns inside and then opened fire on deputies, according to Sheriff Mike Chitwood. The girl was shot in the abdomen and the arm but is in stable condition, while the boy surrendered and was not injured, the sheriff's office said. The affidavits include details from an interview with the boy in which he admits to shooting repeatedly at officers using a handgun, a shotgun, and an AK-47 that they had taken from the home. The boy had previously threatened a school official and a student with violence, and the girl had previously committed arson.

SOURCE: 3 June 2017, [CNN](#)

**(U) Michigan – Forty Members of Almighty Vice Lords Gang Arrested**

(U) Detroit – In one of the largest racketeering and conspiracy busts in Detroit's history, 40 members of the Detroit gang Almighty Vice Lords have been arrested on charges ranging from murder to drug trafficking, and weapons. Federal prosecutors unsealed a 172-page indictment that lists 40 members of the gang based out of Chicago but with a large presence in Detroit. "This group is notoriously violent and whenever a member or a member of the community is deemed to be a threat, they take action when people are going against it," said ATF Special Agent in Charge James Deir. Federal authorities say there are 700 known members in Michigan.

SOURCE: 3 June 2021, [Fox News](#)

**(U) Ohio – At Least Six People Were Injured in Shooting at Party**

(U) Springfield – At least six people were injured in an overnight shooting at a party in Springfield, Ohio, police said. The incident is among this year's more than 240 mass shootings, which is defined as a shooting incident in which at least four people are injured. Springfield Police Department officers responded to a "shots fired call" just before 2 a.m. Wednesday on South Yellow Springs Street, said police Lt. Randall Ballentine. Upon arrival, "officers found multiple individuals shot," according to Ballentine. Six people were transported to Springfield Regional Medical Center with gunshot wounds.

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Some of the victims were transported by responding officers and others by the fire department, said Ballentine.

SOURCE: 3 June 2021, [CNN](#)

### **(U) INTERNATIONAL**

#### **(U) China – Police Surge to Prevent Tiananmen Commemoration**

(U) Hong Kong – Thousands of police were deployed in Hong Kong on Friday and the organizer of the territory's now-banned annual vigil of China's Tiananmen Square crackdown arrested, as the authorities tried to prevent people from gathering for any kind of remembrance of the events of 1989. Hong Kong usually holds a mass vigil to remember those killed when soldiers stormed the square, which was packed with protesters calling for democracy, but police have banned the events for the past two-years citing the COVID-19 pandemic. Tens-of-thousands of Hong Kong people defied 2020's ban on the vigil, gathering in the city's Victoria Park and lighting candles.

SOURCE: 4 June 2021, [Al Jazeera](#)

#### **(U) New Zealand – White Supremacists Threatens Māori Leader with Video**

(U) Tauranga – A 44-year-old man has been arrested after Te Pāti Māori, a Māori leader, complained about an online video threatening to kill Māori and target marae (communal religious and social places sacred to Māori). The arrest comes after an investigation into "multiple complaints" over the video, police say. "The man was arrested in Tauranga this afternoon and charged with making an objectionable publication," a spokesperson said. The arrest comes just a day after Te Pāti Māori lodged an official complaint to the Independent Police Conduct Authority (IPCA), accusing police of double-standards when dealing with death threats made against Pākehā (New Zealanders primarily of European descent) and Māori.

SOURCE: 3 June 2021, [Newshub](#)

### **(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.**

**(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL [STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV](mailto:STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV), OR CALL 916-636-2900.**

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